



NEWS

The Pelican

Dates

- 26/7
P-3 Bravehearts visit
- 27/7
Brain Talk for Kids
- 3/8
11/12 Hospitality Industry visits
- 4/8
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
- 12/8
District Athletics
- 15/8-19/8
Book Fair

From the Principal's Desk

Term 3 underway!

Welcome back to students and staff. The term has started well with 50% of our students turning up to school with 90%+ attendance (less than 9 days away for the semester). It does mean we have a few **families that we will be notifying in relation to their children's** attendance but overall those students who have 90% and above can be congratulated.

It was also pleasing to present Secondary students including Year **11/12 students with Principal's awards on parade this week.** It will be exciting to take them to lunch and reward them for their commitment to improving their personal goals.

New Staff

This term we welcome Jess Weber (2/3 teacher) and Cassandra Brandley (Junior Secondary teacher). We welcome both to our school and community and wish them all the best as they start their teaching careers.

Unfortunately, we said farewell to Anthony Molenaar and Charlotte Killick. Anthony left to focus on his studies and Charlotte is currently in Brisbane. A big thank you to both staff members who were committed to supporting students and staff at our school.

Special events this term

ATHLETICS
PERFORMING ARTS
YEAR 11/12 CAMP
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
PHOTOS
NRL VISIT
BRAVEHEARTS
TRY FOR 5!
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REVIEW

Newsletter Edition #10: 22nd July 2016

Scott Prince visits for Try for Five

A former professional NRL great visited Cunnamulla P – 12 State School at the end of Term 2 to celebrate with students who achieved 95%+ attendance.

Cunnamulla P – 12 State School hosted Scott Prince as part of the Try for Five program, which is a joint initiative of the **North Queensland Cowboys and Brisbane Broncos'** Community Foundation program. Try for 5! is aimed at closing the gaps in foundation learning that results from poor school attendance.

Run as a ten-week challenge within various schools around the state, including Cunnamulla P – 12 State School, Try for 5! focuses on reducing non-explained absences through competitions and rewards. Classes have been competing to have the best attendance to receive Broncos and Cowboys prizes and personalised video messages from Broncos or Cowboys players.

Scott said that attendance and education is a huge priority.

"I'm passionate about that. It's something I grew up with at home in Mt Isa, it was a message given to me by my Mum and Dad, and now I'm using rugby league as a vehicle to engage children and to pass that message on. That's why I'm involved in Try for 5. Ultimately, whether it's at school or in life, if you work hard, you'll get rewards. But it all starts at school."

A special parade was held to welcome Scott to Cunnamulla P – 12 State School, and he spoke to the students, commending them on doing a good job improving their attendance, and that he was looking forward to returning to Cunnamulla in Term 3 – bringing some more footballer friends with him. Those students that achieved 95% or higher attendance were awarded with certificates, and then enjoyed lunch with Scott and their family members. In the afternoon, they participated in fun activities including painting a mural and ball games. The next morning, attendance was excellent as many students came to enjoy a **'Big Breakfast'** which included tasty items such as sausages, eggs, pancakes and hot chocolate.

Cunnamulla P – 12 State School deputy principal, Bianca Shinnie, said the students responded extremely well to Scott Prince's visit.

"There was a lot of excitement in the school surrounding Scott's visit, with the students asking when he was arriving," Mrs Shinnie said. "The best attendance students were extremely happy when they received their football prize from Scott. Try for 5 is a great program that allows students to better their attendance and education whilst getting visits from professional NRL players."



Students who achieved 95%+ attendance stand proudly with Scott Prince.



All staff and students are cheerful after enjoying a filling breakfast.



Students and their families digging into lunch.



Mrs Melany Molenaar and Mrs Karen Campbell with Scott Prince.



Lilly Woods, Cheyenne Woods and Sasha Woods with Scott Prince.



95%+ attendance students receive their prizes—Broncos and Cowboys lunchboxes and footballs.



Scott Prince assists the students in painting a Try for 5 mural.



Children eagerly lining up for their big breakfast.



Marlon Tanner-Munn and Lauren Mitchell playing ball games with Scott Prince.

Senior students go to Canberra

The senior science class, along with Year 9 science student Chelsea Ferguson, went to Canberra in Week 10 of Term 2. The trip was a great success! We were able to visit many educational places, including the Old and 'new' Parliament House, Questacon, CSIRO, Australian Museum, Australian Institute of Sport and the National War Memorial, with a little time left-over for fun.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians to visit the nation's capital, and to assist families in meeting the costs of this excursion the Australia Government contributed \$60 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. Furthermore, throughout Terms 1 and 2 the senior science students conducted various fundraising activities to help with the cost of trip. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us through buying pies, icy cups, pancakes, tickets in the \$100 board, guessing the number of eggs in the jar and also dressing up. We were very lucky to have the support of the community – a BIG THANK YOU. We were also appreciative to have the local CACH and Paroo Shire Council donate toward the cost of this trip.

Melany Molenaar and Lacey Mack



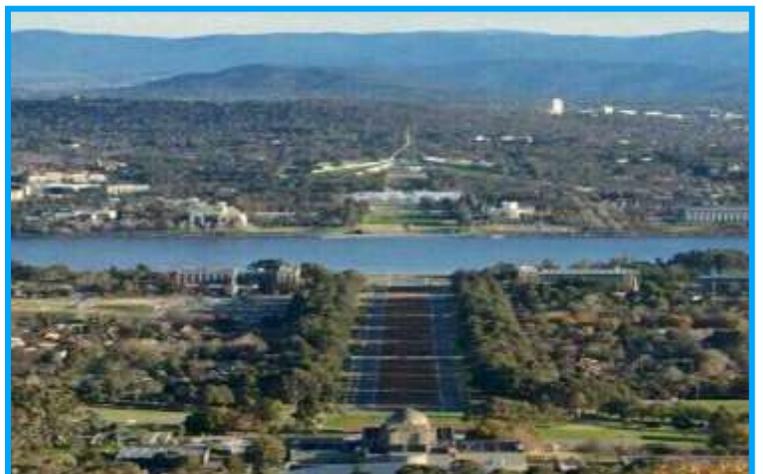
Staff and students enjoyed a competitive game of laser tag.



Why walk when you can Segway? A tour of the city was conducted on segways.



At the top of the National Aboratorium.



A view of the city.

Minister for Health congratulates Deadly Recruits

During Week 1 of Term 3, Cunnamulla P – 12 State School hosted the Honourable Cameron Dick, Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services. The Minister enjoyed a morning tea with the secondary students and teachers who attended the Deadly Recruits camp at the end of Term 2. These students spent a week camping at Tinnenburra and undertaking various army activities, such as using night vision, orienteering hikes and standing and marching military style.

Year 9 student Koli Tangi-Tangi, enjoyed the camp, saying, “It was a great experience and I learnt a lot, and hopefully I can go again. When everyone was out there on camp, we were all like brothers and sisters.”

A special assembly was held, with the Minister addressing all students and members from the community. He congratulated them on a job well done, and presented each participant with a certificate.



The Honourable Cameron Dick stands with the camp attendees.



Mrs Karen Campbell and the Hon Cameron Dick addressing the students.



Steven Mitchell, Phillip Andersen and Koli Tangi-Tangi.



The camp attendees in their camouflage attire.

NAIDOC activities celebrate local identity and culture

On Friday of week 1, children at Cunnamulla P - 12 State School enjoyed a day dedicated to NAIDOC celebrations. CEC Officer Julie Fox devised many different activities for the children to participate in, that celebrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture.

To begin the day, the staff and students undertook a march through the main street of town, proudly bearing a NAIDOC banner. On returning to school, the morning session was dedicated to arts and crafts, with volunteers Amanda Fox, Kathalyn Hopkins and Jane Dillon coming in to work with the children. Some of the art activities included sand art, making flags, painting pictures, decorating pouches and scratch-art.

In the middle of the day all the students braved the chilly wind to play traditional games on the oval, under the guidance of volunteers Sean Ticehurst, Linda Wharton, Scott Pattie, Jane Dillon and Edward Collins. Afterwards, to warm up, everyone enjoyed a hearty campfire lunch and damper cooked by local Police Liaison Officer Laurie Bateman.

To finish off the day, students split into primary and secondary sectors, with the younger students enjoying storytelling and yarns with Cheryl Ellery and Beverley Mitchell in the library. Secondary students were enthusiastic participants in a competitive round of Indigenous trivia. It was very close, but the **9/10 students earnt themselves some bonus points be demonstrating excellent 'shake-a-leg' dancing**, and won themselves a Mars bar each.

Julie Fox counted the day as a big success, saying, "All students participated well and enjoyed the activities that were organised. All helpers were a huge help in making the day a success and we look forward to working together in the future."



Staff and students brave the early morning chill to parade through town.



Joshua Wharton proudly displays his Aboriginal flag.

NAIDOC Day

Student opinion



Phillip Yock being an excellent emu.



Harrison Molenaar and Kimberley Ohlsen loving the traditional games.



PLO Laurie Bateman slaving over the hot campfire.

Shyann Thomas, Year 11

What was the best part of the day?

The sand art.

Why do you like NAIDOC?

Because it's fun.

What did you think about the food?

It was yum.



Lauren Mitchell, Year 7

What was the best part of the day?

Hanging out with my friends.

Why do you like NAIDOC?

Because I can learn about our culture.

What did you think about the food?

It was nice.



Keliani Maxwell, Year 1

What was the best part of the day?

Painting.

Why do you like NAIDOC?

Because I can get to know other kids.

What did you think about the food?

I liked the curried sausages.



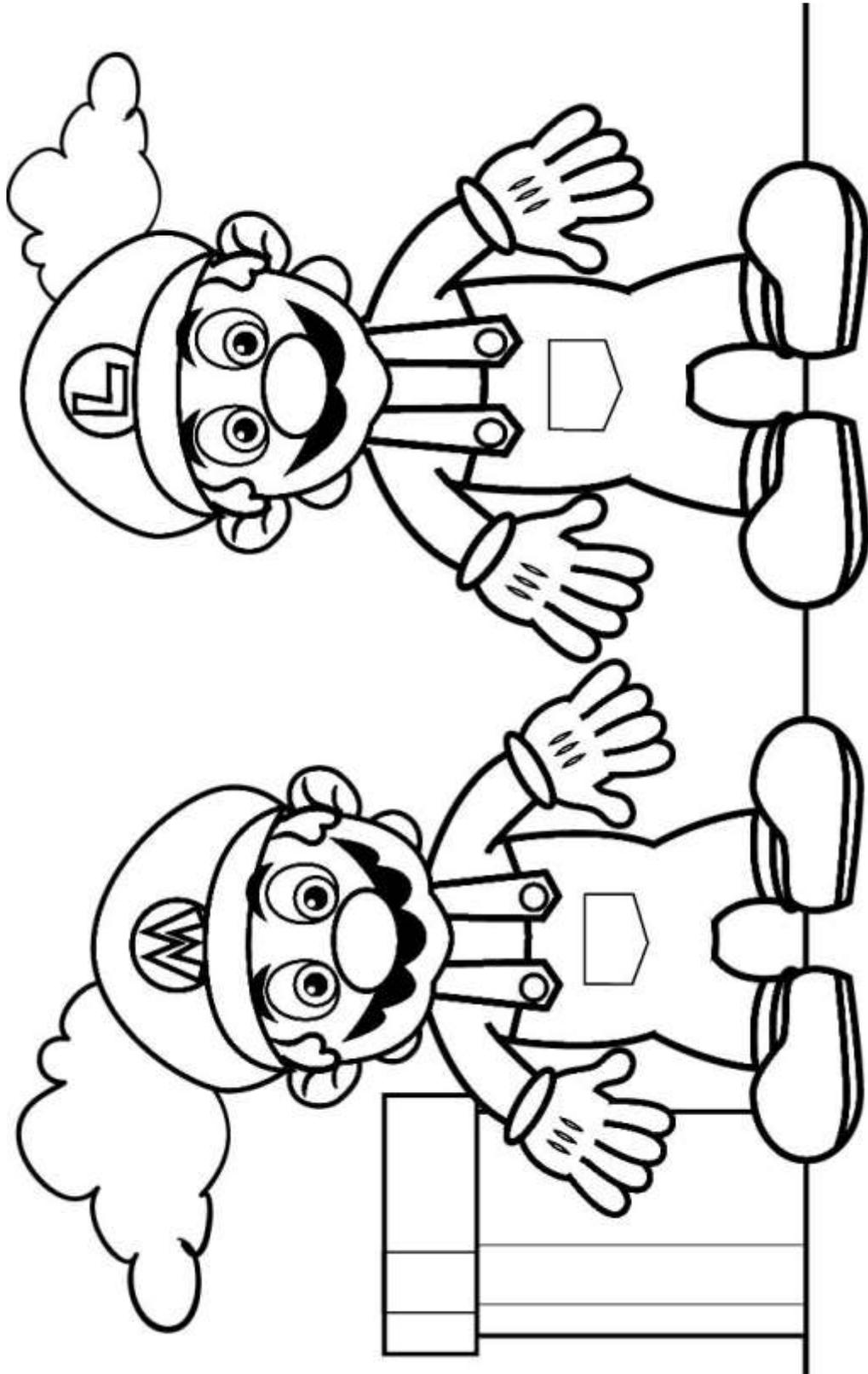
More photos from the day can be found on the school website:

<https://cunnamullap12ss.eq.edu.au/>

Fun Page: Colouring Competition

Instructions: Hand your completed picture to Mrs Vos. Pictures will be displayed and the 9/10 students will decide the best one. The winner will receive a special prize!!!

Name: _____



Student Interviews

Steven Mitchell and Phillip Andersen interviewed two Cunnamulla P–12 State School students to find out more about them!



Brett Murphy, Year 12

What's your favourite subject?

Phys Rec

What's your favourite movie?

Undisputed 3

What is your favourite colour?

Blue

Do you like coming to school?

It's hard for me to get up at 8:00 every morning

Who is your favourite teacher?

Miss Bourke



David Chapman, Year 6

What's your favourite subject?

English/ Math

What's your favourite movie?

Friday

What is your favourite colour?

Blue

Do you like coming to school?

Yes because there is nothing to do when I am not at school

Who is your favourite teacher?

Miss Hodson

Students deliver outstanding drama and dance performance

During Week 11 of Term 2, students were lucky to work with actor Peter Cook and dance professionals Bessy Kabamba and her daughter Latrice Kabamba. They came to Cunnamulla for a week to work with the children on drama and dance lessons, and students also had the choice to participate in creating a drama performance featuring a fully choreographed hip-hop dance. The students that committed to the performance spent hours during school time and after school rehearsals practicing. They presented their performance to an impressed audience of students, staff and community members on the Friday afternoon.

Peter Cook was impressed by the students dedication over the week, saying, "We had a fantastic week working with students, choreographing a dance piece and developing a short script. We were amazed at what the students achieved in the five days and we were so impressed with their commitment to the performance at the end of the week. We worked with the rest of the classes on their pieces for the end of school concert as well and all of the classes were enthusiastic in their approach. The students who have signed up for the major performing arts group will perform on the bull ride weekend and we are hoping to make it to the Charleville Eisteddfod as well. Thanks also to the community members who came down on the Friday afternoon to support the students. Look forward to seeing everyone in week seven and eight this term."



Students performing the 3½ minute hip hop routine.



Tarni Thomas and Jarib Branfield-Bradshaw delivering an authentic performance.



Mrs Campbell congratulates all the participants on their outstanding effort.

Brain Talk for Kids

Pathways to Resilience will be visiting Cunnamulla P - 12 State School on the 27th of July. They are a Brisbane based provider of training and education programs. They will be speaking with classes about 'Using the Brain for Happiness.'

Research has demonstrated that teaching students about how their brain works – in particular, that the brain is plastic and can develop new capacities with effort and practice – makes a big difference in how constructively kids deal with mistakes and setbacks, and how motivated they are to persist until they achieve mastery.

Presentation Topics

'Upstairs' and 'Downstairs'
brains

Brain 'Roles'
Neuroplasticity



A hand model of the brain
Keeping your 'lid' on
Neurodiversity
Choice requires skills

School Opinion Survey

The suite of School Opinion Surveys are undertaken each year by the Department of Education and Training to obtain opinion information from parents/caregivers, students and school staff. The surveys are designed to help schools identify what they do well and how they can improve. Responses are confidential.

Opinions on the school, student learning and student well-being are sought from a parent/caregiver in all families and a sample of students from each state school.

Opinions on the school as a workplace are sought from all state school staff and principals. Additional questions are included for teaching staff on their confidence to teach and improve student outcomes, while principals are also asked their confidence to lead the school, including improvements in student outcomes.

The 2016 School Opinion Survey will open between 11 - 29 July 2016.

School Staff will be contacting families regarding the survey.





Making Career Choices

Continue the career conversations at home...

Know what young people are learning about career choices and tertiary options or find out about your own study and work opportunities.



Community members welcome - Refreshments provided

Date: Thursday 4th August 2016

Time: 6.00pm

Location: Cunnamulla P – 12 State School Library